

Application of: Dahong Qian et al.

Serial No. 09/777,959

Filed: February 7, 2001

Reply to Notice of Allowance of October 28, 2005 and Examiner's Amendment of July 8, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A group-browsing system comprising:

a group of client computers including a first client computer and other client computers; wherein each of said group of client computers securely share and display a shared web browser; a server linked to the shared web browser and the server configured to (1) monitor a transmission of a web site URL request from the shared web browser of the first client computer and (2) to direct the web site URL request to the shared web browser of the other client computers; and

gatekeeper modules of the respective said group of client computers; wherein, each of the gatekeeper modules are configured to (1) mask an identity of each of said group of client computers to prevent a web site corresponding to the web site URL request from retrieving an actual identifier of the first client computer, and (2) create a same temporary identifier for each of said group of client computers when a user of the first client computer logs on to the web site so that a same web page corresponding to the web site URL request is displayed securely at each said group of client computers.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which the group-browsing system is a scalable secure system.

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3. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which the gatekeeper module resides on each client.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 in which the actual identifier is a cookie and the temporary identifier is a temporary cookie.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which the gatekeeper further including means for deleting the temporary identifier at the end of a group-browsing session to prevent any client from returning to the web site identified as another client.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 in which the gatekeeper further including means for generating a warning message when any client logs on to the web site to inform that client that the other clients in the group will now be able to access that clients private information.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including means for tracking the actions of all the clients for billing purposes.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including client software configured to detect the end of a group-browsing session and, in response, to direct a client's secure browser to transmit the web site URL to allow the client to return to the previously accessed web site.

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9. (Currently Amended) A gatekeeper system for group-browsing, the system comprising:

a group of client computers including a first client computer and other client computers; wherein each of said group of client computers securely share and display a shared web browser;

a server linked to the shared web browser and the server configured to (1) monitor a transmission of a web site URL request from the shared web browser of the first client computer and (2) direct the web site URL request to the shared web browser of the other client computers;

gatekeeper modules of the respective said group of client computers;

means for masking an identity of each of said group of client computers to prevent a web site corresponding to the web site URL request from retrieving an actual identifier of the first client computer[[],]; and

means for creating a same temporary identifier for each of said group of client computers when a user of the first client computer logs on to the web site so that a same web page corresponding to the web site URL request is displayed securely at each said group of client computers.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 in which the actual identifier is a cookie and the temporary identifier is a temporary cookie.

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11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9 further including means for deleting the temporary identifier at the end of a group-browsing session.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A group-browsing method for a group of client computers including a first client computer and other client computers; wherein, each of said group of client computers securely share and display a shared web browser, the method comprising:

linking a server to the shared web browser;

using the server to configure to (1) monitor a transmission of a web site URL request from the shared web browser of the first client computer and (2) direct the web site URL request to the shared web browser of the other client computers;

masking an identity of each of said group of client computers to prevent a web site corresponding to the web site URL from retrieving an actual identifier of the first of the client computer; and

creating a same temporary identifier for each of said group of client computers when a user of the first client computer logs on to the web site so that a same web page corresponding to the web site URL request is displayed securely at each said group of client computers; wherein,

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the masking and the creating steps are performed by each of gatekeeper modules of the respective said group of client computers.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 in which the actual identifier is a cookie and the temporary identifier is a temporary cookie.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 further including deleting the temporary identifier at the end of a group-browsing session to prevent any client from returning to the web site identified as another client.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14 in which the step of configuring the gatekeeper further including generating a warning message when any client logs on to the web site to inform that client that the other clients in the group will now be able to access that client's private information.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14 further including tracking the actions of all the clients for billing purposes.

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19. (Original) The method of claim 14 further including configuring a client software to detect the end of a group-browsing session and, in response, directing a client's secure browser to transmit the web site URL to allow the client to return to the previously accessed web site.

20. (Currently Amended) A group-browsing method comprising:

securely sharing and displaying a shared web browser by each of a group of client computers; wherein, the group of client computers include a first client computer and other client computers;

linking a server to the shared web browser;

using the server to configure to (1) monitor a transmission of a web site URL request from the shared web browser of the first client computer and (2) direct the web site URL request to the shared web browser of the other client computers;

masking an identity of each of said group of client computers to prevent a web site corresponding to the web site URL request from retrieving an actual identifier of the first of the client computer; and

creating a same temporary identifier for each of said group of client computers when a user of the first client computer logs on to the web site so that a same web page corresponding to the web site URL request is displayed securely at each said group of client computers; wherein, the masking and the creating steps are performed by each of gatekeeper modules of the respective said group of client computers.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 20 in which the identifier is a cookie and the temporary identifier is a temporary cookie.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 further including deleting the temporary identifier at the end of a group-browsing session.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)